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Lab Laurels
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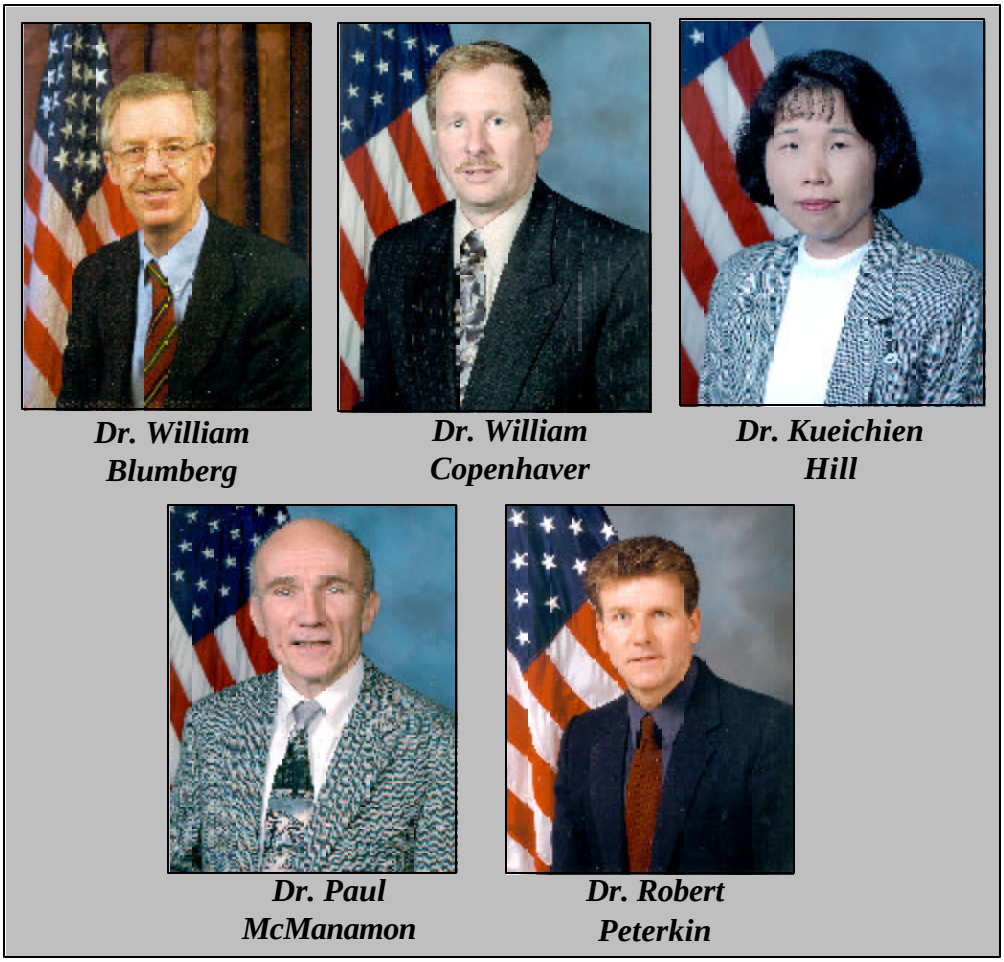
AFRL names five among 2002 Fellow nominees

by Katherine Gleason, AFRL Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — The Air Force Research Laboratory has announced the selection of five well-renowned scientists and engineers as AFRL Fellows.

This year's honorees are:
Dr. William Blum-berg, Space Vehicles Directorate, Hanscom AFB, Mass.;
Dr. William Copenhaver, Propulsion Directorate, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio;
Dr. Kueichien Hill, Sensors Directorate, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio;
Dr. Paul McManamon, Sensors Directorate, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; and
Dr. Robert Peterkin, Directed Energy Directorate, Kirtland AFB, N.M.

"Our researchers work hard creating the future for our nation's Air and Space Forces," said Maj. Gen. Paul D. Nielsen, AFRL commander. "The men and women we recognize as AFRL Fellows ensure technological superiority for our Air Force through their significant scientific achievements and personal commitment to excellence."



Dr. William Blumberg

Dr. William Copenhaver

Dr. Kueichien Hill

Dr. Paul McManamon

Dr. Robert Peterkin

Blumberg is being recognized for augmenting the understanding of infrared background signatures and their effects on surveillance systems. He is responsible for the Battlespace Environment Division's overall technical direction in specifying, forecasting, mitigating, and exploiting environmental impacts on Air Force space systems.

Copenhaver's expertise is in the area of compression system aerodynamics. His breakthroughs in jet engine stall prevention have had great impact on both military and commercial aircraft. In addition, he has led teams on a variety of missions ranging from development of innovative concepts, to full-scale compression system component demonstration tests.

Hill is renowned for work in computational electromagnetics (CEM). Her research has revolutionized radar cross-section modeling for America's stealth technology, and her CEM design tools are directly influencing future low observable weapon systems that provide our combat forces with a significant military advantage.

McManamon is a leader in electro-optical systems and is being recognized for his work in optical phased arrays and laser flash imaging. He is currently developing multidiscriminate electro-optical sensors, including multifunction laser radar technology, needed to detect, track and identify diffi-

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

cult targets. His work also addresses novel electro-optic countermeasure systems and optical phased-array beam steering technology.

Peterkin's research in computational plasma physics for states of geometric complexity has significantly advanced the development of high power microwave systems. Additionally, he serves as Chief Scientist for the Department of Defense High Performance Computing Modernization Program.

"Every year, I look forward to announcing our newest Fellows," said Nielsen. "This is our highest award, and it gives us a great opportunity to recognize their leadership, imagination and foresight that keeps our Air Force great."

The selection committee considers both military and civilian scientists and engineers. To be eligible, participants must be assigned to AFRL for the last three consecutive years and have at least seven years of active federal service. The work being recognized must have been performed at the laboratory and meet the following criteria:

◆ Discovery of a factor, theory, etc., of important fundamental or sufficient magnitude to warrant recognition in the scientific or engineering community as a pioneering breakthrough;

◆ Recognition as a national or international authority in one or more fields, including widespread recognition within the Air Force;

◆ Sustaining of high-level achievements in programs of extraordinary importance to AFRL, the Air Force, or national defense;

◆ Continuing significant personal contributions to the lab beyond normal expectations; and

◆ Obtaining an exceptional record of scientific and technical achievements, creativity and leadership, patents, publishing in referenced publications, organizational skills, and development of lab programs.

The AFRL Fellows program is designed to recognize and reward the laboratory's most outstanding in-house scientists and engineers for their accomplishments and technical excellence.

Each Fellow receives a special $100,000 grant for the first two years following selection. The grant serves to assist in further self-development and additional research. This year's Fellows will be honored at a banquet at the U.S. Air Force Museum on Sept. 26. **@**